

477

tell when he would return. I then told her my name and that I was an attorney. She replied that she knew me, or rather knew who I was and was very gracious and polite to me.

She is a rather tall woman, well proportioned, with black bobbed hair and wore heavy, black boned glasses.

I then told her of the information that you had. Of course I did not mention your name or any attorney's name of the defense, stressed to the best of my ability the importance and seriousness of the statement that she was accredited to have made. Her first statement satisfied me that your information was correct because in a very friendly, courteous manner she informed me that she had been advised not to talk and that the matter was a terrible mess and that any statement made by anyone to be used by the State was branded by the defense as a pack of lies. Out of a clear sky she then asked me if I knew Mr. B. when he was alive and I said yes, I knew him quite well. Why she made this statement, I do not know except that I believe that the woman herself was inclined to be friendly towards me if for no other reason than because I am Corporation Counsel of the Borough and sewers are being put through their street and they are very desirous of having the street improved by the Borough.

At this time a child's voice cried out from upstairs and she excused herself stating that she brought her son home from the hospital a short time ago, he having had a minor operation, which confirms the information as given to you and set forth in the statement sent to me by you.

Mrs. Dickson seemed rather disturbed because I was aware of her alleged statement and while she did not refer to it in words, her attitude showed that she was very much surprised and a bit distressed that apparently some one knew of this statement.

Following your instructions, I again stressed the importance of being sure of any identification of any person four years after seeing them, particularly when one sees them for only a few minutes. For the first time in the interview she became very positive and stated that she agreed with me unless the instant so impressed itself on one's mind that they were unable to forget it.

Though I talked with the lady for a long time, I was unable to make any further progress with her, she repeating time and again that she had been advised not to talk to anyone and stated to me about if I were her attorney, I would advise her to do the same. I then asked her whether or not her own attorney or some one else had advised her to keep silent and she refused to answer.

As I said before, she was very courteous, she apologized at least a dozen times for not answering my questions and seemed very much of a lady. In my own mind I am absolutely satisfied that she and her husband have made the statements attributed to them because as I was leaving she stated that what she knew her husband knew.

I felt all during the interview that Mrs. Dickson was inclined to be friendly towards me, on the other hand, I was unable to get anything from her other than a few scattered statements which I have tried to set down in this letter to you, which at least was

14